

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-11

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 H-03 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 OMB-01 EURE-00

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0432

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/80

TAGS: EFIN, GW, NATO

SUBJECT: BURDENSARING-OFFSET NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A) STATE 013411; B) STATE 016698

1. WE NOTE FROM REFTELS THAT US-FRG BILATERAL OFFSET NEGOTIATIONS LIKELY TO RESUME EARLY NEXT MONTH. CONTINUING PRESSURE ON GERMANS TO OFFSET FULL US MILITARY EXPENDITURE IN FRG (\$1.6 BILLION ANNUALLY), AS THEY HAVE IN PAST BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, WILL BE IMPORTANT TO MEET JACKSON-NUNN REQUIREMENTS. CONTRIBUTION OF OTHER ALLIES THROUGH PROCUREMENT AND POSSIBLE RELIEF ON NATO BUDGETS AND PIPELINE DEFICIT CANNOT POSSIBLY COVER US MILITARY BOP DEFICIT WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN LAST FRG OFFER.

2. IN OUR CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRG BILATERALLY AND FULL ALLIANCE IN NATO. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE USE THE SAME FIGURES AT THE SAME TIME. ACCORDING TO REF A, OUR CURRENT ESTIMATE OF NATO-WIDE OFFSET NECESSARY TO SATISFY JACKSON-NUNN REQUIREMENTS, AFTER DEDUCTING \$380 MILLION IN EXPENDITURES NOT STEMMING FROM NATO COMMITMENTS, IS APPROXIMATELY \$2.12 BILLION. WHEN THIS FIGURE IS REFERRED TO IN DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG, WE MUST USE SAME FIGURE IN NATO MULTILATERAL FORUM IF WE  
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ARE TO MAINTAIN CREDIBILITY. (OUR DISCUSSION IN NATO THUS FAR, OF COURSE, HAVE ALL BEEN IN TERMS OVERALL MILITARY BOP EXPENDITURE OF \$2.5 BILLION.) CONVERSELY, AWARENESS OF OTHER ALLIES OF REDUCED NATO-WIDE OFFSET TO BE COVERED BEFORE

WE HAVE MENTIONED FIGURE TO GERMANS WOULD DAMAGE BILATERAL  
NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRG.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT TIMING OF USE CURRENT ESTIMATES TO  
SATISFY JACKSON-NUNN REQUIREMENTS ON NATO-WIDE BASIS BE  
COORDINATED TO ASSURE FRG AND OTHER ALLIES HEAR US SPEAKING  
WITH ONE VOICE.  
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